

REMARKS

The Advisory Action dated March 5, 2007 and the Office Action dated November 11, 2006 have been received and carefully reviewed. By this Amendment, claims 1-8 and 10 have been canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Although Applicant does not necessarily agree with the rejections of the Office Action, in light of the Advisory Action indicating that the Amendment filed February 12 will not be entered, Applicant has decided to cancel the above claims in order to narrow the issues for the Examiner and to place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary.

Entry of the Amendment is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 since the Amendment does not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration, and in fact cancels claims to narrow the issues for the Examiner; satisfy a requirement of form asserted in the previous Office Action; and place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. Accordingly, entry of the Amendment is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 4, and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Claims 1 and 4 are canceled, and thus the rejection with respect to these claims are now moot. Regarding claim 9, however, Applicant respectfully traverse the rejection.

The Office Action at page 2 alleges that claim 9 recites “chamfers between the fan and motor parallel to each other.” Nowhere is this language found in claim 9. Rather, claim 9 recites “the motor shaft includes chamfers parallel to each other and configured for facilitating removal of the fan from the motor shaft.”

The Office Action further alleges that claim 9 fails to comply with the written description requirement. Applicant respectfully disagree. Fig. 5, for example, clearly supports the above-noted language of claim 9. The specification, for example, at paragraph [0032] discloses that “In

this instance, since the motor shaft 500 of the present invention has the chamfered parts 500a in the shaft, the chamfered parts 500a can be clamped with a tool....” At least for the reasons discussed above, Applicant respectfully submit that claim 9 is supported by the specification and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1–3 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,555,647 to Torborg et al (hereinafter “*Torborg*”). Claims 1-3 are now canceled, and thus the rejection with respect to these claims are now moot.

The Office Action rejects claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 2,547,238 to Tremblay (hereinafter “*Tremblay*”). Applicant respectfully traverse the rejection.

As required in Chapter 2131 of the M.P.E.P., in order to anticipate a claim under 35 U.S.C. §102, “the reference must teach every element of the claim.” The Applicant respectfully submit that *Tremblay* does not teach every element recited in claim 1. Thus, *Tremblay* does not anticipate claim 9. For example, claim 9 recites, among other features, a “the motor shaft includes chamfers parallel to each other and configured for facilitating removal of the fan from the motor shaft.”

The Office Action at page 4 alleges that *Tremblay* discloses that “the motor shaft includes chamfers 98, 100 parallel to each other.” Applicant respectfully disagree.

The American Heritage Dictionary defines “chamfer” as “a flat surface made by cutting off the edge of ... a block of ... material.” This definition is consistent with the description of the chamfer in the specification of the present application, including the corresponding figures, for example, Fig. 5.

Applicant refers to M.P.E.P. §2111.01 to point out that words of a claim must be given their “plain meaning” unless such meaning is inconsistent with the specification. Specifically, M.P.E.P. §2111.01 states that ordinary, simple English words whose meaning is

clear and unquestionable, absent any indication that their use in a particular context changes their meaning, are construed to mean exactly what they say.

In light of this, the Office Action alleges that a *collar fitting 98* under a shelf 90, and a *removable ball bearing mounting 100*, which the collar 98 carries, discloses “the motor shaft includes *chamfers parallel to each other*,” (emphasis added).

Referring to Fig. 1 of *Tremblay*, Applicant does not fully appreciate how the collar fitting 98 and the removable ball bearing mounting 100 disclose the recited “chamfers parallel to each other.” In fact, *Tremblay* discloses that the shaft 106 is rotatably mounted to the collar 98. *See col. 3, lines 42-46*. Thus, this begs the question, why would *Tremblay*’s shaft be chamfered? In fact, *Tremblay*’s Fig. 1 shows that the shaft 106 does not have “chamfers.” Moreover, nowhere in *Tremblay* does it mention the motor shaft includes chamfers parallel to each other.

Therefore, withdrawal of the rejection of claim 9 is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 4, 6, and 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over *Torborg* in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,664,936 to Cunha et al (hereinafter “*Cunha*”). Claims 4, 6, and 8 are canceled, and thus the rejection with respect to these claims are now moot.

The Office Action also rejects claims 1-4, 6, and 8-9 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-9 of U.S. Patent No. 6,874,248 to Hong et al. (hereinafter “*Hong*”) in view of either *Torborg*, U.S. Patent No. 3,264,016 to Reisch (hereinafter “*Reisch*”), and/or *Cunha*. Claims 1-4, 6, and 8 have been canceled, and thus the rejection with respect to these claims are now moot. Regarding claim 9, however, Applicant respectfully traverse the rejection.

No other information is provided by the Examiner regarding *Hong*. There is no discussion in *Hong* of a chamfer, nor is there a discussion of a chamfer or any other component that facilitates the removal of the fan from the motor shaft.

Applicant respectfully submit that none of the references, either singularly or in combination, disclose or suggest all the features of the claim 9.

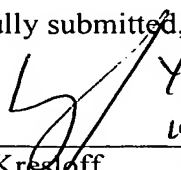
Therefore, Applicant respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

If for any reason the Examiner believes a conversation with the Applicant's representative would facilitate the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: March 14, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

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